

CABINET, 4 OCTOBER 2004

Present: - Councillors Bing, Birch (In the Chair), Cooke Daniel, Finch, Humphries, Kramer, Smith, Stevens and Wilson.

Please note that these are draft minutes and they will not be agreed formally until the next meeting on 1 November 2004

MATTER FOR COUNCIL DECISION

40. LOCAL PERFORMANCE PLAN AND BUDGET TIMETABLE

The Policy and Performance Unit Manager and the Executive Manager Financial Services jointly submitted a report on the proposed timetable for production and agreement of the Local Performance Plan and Budget for 2005/06.

RECOMMENDED – that the timetable and the new date for the Budget Cabinet be agreed and the Council hold a meeting on 23 February to agree the Council's Local Performance Plan and Budget and set the overall Council Tax.

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MATTERS FOR CABINET DECISION

41. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Councillors declared their interests in the minutes indicated: -

| Councillor | Minute | Interest |
|--------------------|--|----------|
| Kramer and Stevens | 43 – Hastings Fisheries Study – The Nautilus Report | Personal |
| Stevens | 40 – Local Performance Plan and Budget Timetable | Personal |
| Stevens | 46 – Procurement of Service Contracts Grounds Maintenance - Specifications | Personal |
| Stevens | 47 – Leisure Management Contract Renewal | Personal |
| Stevens | 48 – Contract Procurement – Refuse Collection and Street Cleansing – Service Specification | Personal |

42. MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting held on 6 September 2004 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

43. HASTINGS FISHERIES STUDY – THE NAUTILUS REPORT

The Economic Development Manager presented the report of the Executive Director, Regeneration and Planning on the findings and recommendations of the recently completed Hastings Fisheries Study. Nautilus Consultants had made a presentation on their report prior to the start of the meeting, to which all members of the Council had been invited.

In 2002, the Council had obtained substantial funding from the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) for a two-year programme to support the future economic viability and sustainability of Hastings' fishing fleet. The completion of the SEEDA-funded Fisheries Study marked the end of the programme. Nautilus Consultants were appointed in January 2004 to carry out the work. The purpose of the study was to identify measures that would help ensure long term and sustainable employment in the local fishing industry and associated activities. The consultants were also asked to explore industry diversification measures that had already been identified.

Key partners were involved in the development of the brief and guided the consultants' work through a Steering Group comprising representatives of the Fishermen's Protection Society,

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the Stade Partnership, Hastings and Bexhill Task Force, and Hastings Borough Council. Day to day management was through the Council's Economic Development team. The Final Report had been discussed at a recent meeting of the Stade Partnership, and there was general agreement with the study findings and the consultants' recommendations. A letter from the Hastings Fishermen's Protection Society was circulated at the meeting.

The consultants' findings and recommendations were contained in three reports: The Final Report, an Executive Summary, and a Business Plan for Hastings Fishmarket Enterprises. A copy of the Executive Summary was appended to the report. The full Final Report had been placed in the Members Room, and an electronic copy was available to Members on request.

The recommendation to the report was moved by Councillor Birch and seconded by Councillor Kramer. Councillor Stevens moved an amendment, which was seconded by Councillor Smith, as follows: -

"That recommendation (3) be amended to read 'that the consultants' findings and options for the future are welcomed and Cabinet recommends that they be progressed as soon as practical in conjunction with the Stade Partnership'"

The amendment was withdrawn upon the agreement of the mover and seconder of the original motion to amend the wording of recommendations (1) and (3) as set out below.

Councillor Wilson requested that recommendation (3) be amended by the substitution of the words, "integrated into the options for" in place of the words, "fully considered in the development of". The mover and seconder accepted the amendment.

RESOLVED – (unanimously) that: -

- (1) the findings of the study be noted and further development, in conjunction with the Stade Partnership, of the three suggested project themes: Fishing and Seafood, Tourism and Education be approved;**
- (2) funding opportunities to support the project themes are explored and developed;**
- (3) the consultants' findings and options for the future are integrated into the options for the Seafront Strategy; and**
- (4) the proposals set out in this report be endorsed and that a further report is made once the development work has been completed.**

44. AREA INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK (AIF) AND OBJECTIVE 2 FUNDED PROJECTS AND AIF PRIORITIES

The Executive Director, Regeneration and Planning submitted a report on the further development of the Area Investment Framework (AIF).process in Hastings and Bexhill.

SEEDA had first introduced the Area Investment Framework (AIF) concept in 2003 as a tool for guiding their investment in priority regeneration areas. The report contained a summary of the eight proposed projects that had been commissioned and approved by the AIF Board

and which of them would be Hastings Borough Council led projects. Approval was sought for projects to be funded through SEEDA's devolved funding AIF allocation and ERDF Objective 2.

RESOLVED – that: -

- (1) the progress made on the Hastings and Bexhill AIF process and the priorities for use of SEEDA devolved funding be noted;**
- (2) the further development of the AIF structure and the current AIF programme be approved; and**
- (3) Hastings Borough Council's delivery of projects be approved as outlined in Sections 3.3.1. – 3.3.17 and 3.4.1. - 3.4.3. of the report.**

45. HASTINGS AND BEXHILL RENAISSANCE LTD (SEA SPACE)

The Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Finance submitted a report seeking approval for the Borough Council to become a member of the company that will be delivering projects for the Hastings and Bexhill Taskforce.

The Council had been involved over the last couple of years with the Hastings and Bexhill Taskforce. The Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive were both members of the Task Force Steering Group, which had guided the developments of the Five Point Plan and the work achieved to date. The delivery of the projects agreed by the Steering Group would be by an Executive Delivery Vehicle known as the Hastings and Bexhill Renaissance Limited (Sea Space). The report was mainly about the company and the Council's participation in it.

RESOLVED (by 8 votes to 2) – that: -

- (1) Hastings Borough Council becomes a member of Hastings and Bexhill Renaissance Ltd (Sea Space); and**
- (2) Councillor Jeremy Birch, Leader of the Council, be nominated to serve as Director of the company.**

46. PROCUREMENT OF SERVICE CONTRACTS GROUNDS MAINTENANCE – SPECIFICATIONS

The Executive Director Leisure and Cultural Development submitted a report on the Grounds Maintenance Specification and its core aims and objectives.

The Contract would broadly cover two main elements; Routine Maintenance – work required on a regular basis and Non – Routine where work is raised on an ad hoc basis by works order.

(Routine)

- § Frontline and Town Centre displays
- § Parks and Gardens
- § Open Spaces
- § Floral bedding displays
- § Sports turf maintenance

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- § Watercourse management, flood control
- § Cemetery Grounds maintenance and grave digging
- § Litter collection to EPA standards
- § Allotment maintenance
- § Containerised displays

(Non - routine)

- § Supply of seasonal bedding plants and bulbs
- § Support in the provision of events
- § Schedule of landscaping works

RESOLVED (by 8 votes to 1) – that the principles set out in the report of the Executive Director Leisure and Cultural Development and the detailed specifications which promote this approach be supported.

47. LEISURE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT RENEWAL

The Executive Director Leisure and Cultural Development submitted a report on the outline priorities to be included in the specification for the Leisure contract renewal. Cabinet had agreed service objectives for Leisure Management on 2 June 2004 and these were listed in the report.

RESOLVED (unanimously) – that the priorities to be included in the specification for the Leisure Management contract be agreed as set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the report.

48. CONTRACT PROCUREMENT – REFUSE COLLECTION AND STREET CLEANSING – SERVICE SPECIFICATION

The Executive Director Environment and Safety submitted a report seeking approval for the outline refuse collection and street cleansing contracts specifications and their core aims and objectives. The contract broadly covered two main elements; firstly refuse collection, which would now need to have recycling integrated within it and secondly street cleansing.

RESOLVED (by 9 votes to 1) – that the principles set out in this report and the detailed specifications which promote this approach be supported as set out in sections 4 and 5 of the report.

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

49. MUSEUMS COMMITTEE

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Museums Committee held on 13 September 2004 be received.

50. YOUTH FORUM

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Youth Forum held on 28 June 2004 be noted.

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.45 pm)

(EW) - Cabinet, 04 10 04